

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 16 and 17.

The above amendment is responsive to the rejections on prior art as will be discussed below.

Claims 1, 14 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Leddy (US 2005/0084741).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Leddy has an effective date of October 15, 2003 and is antedated by Applicants' Japanese priority Application No. 2003-014090 filed January 22, 2003.

A certified copy of this priority application is of record and an English translation, with Translator's statement of accuracy is submitted herewith.

This priority application supports the claims as above amended.

All 6 polymeric acids recited in new claim 16, which replaces claim 15, are disclosed at page 7, lines 19-22 of the English translation.

New claim 17 depends on claim 16 and replaces claim 14. Support for claim 17 is present at e.g. page 9, line 28 of the translation.

Accordingly, the cited reference is inapplicable to the present claims.

The rejection of claim 10 is also moot in view of its cancellation.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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